## **Notice to COVID-19 Temporary Permit Holders**

## VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION re: PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ENDING. PLEASE READ

This is a Notice to all Louisiana licensees and COVID-19 temporary permit holders, and especially LSBME licensees who are, or who practice with, physician assistants, APRNs, and their employers, and/or credentialling hospitals and clinics.

The COVID-19 temporary permits issued by the LSBME are dependent upon Louisiana Governor Edwards' continued declaration of a public health emergency. The current declaration of public health emergency will end at 11:59 p.m. on March 16, 2022. We anticipate the public health emergency declaration will not be renewed by the Governor. New COVID-19 temporary permit applications will be accepted through LSBME close of business, March 16, 2022.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1270 and 1275, and LAC 46:XLV.412, as of March 17, 2022, the LSBME will provide those holding COVID-19 temporary permits at the close of the public health emergency who are in good standing with their original state/country of licensure a one-time 90 day COVID-19 permit extension, through June 14, 2022, to allow for the orderly transition of care and to maintain continuity of care of patients. If you do not want the extended permit, you may opt out by emailing us at <a href="mailto:licensing@lsbme.la.gov">licensing@lsbme.la.gov</a> with "OPT OUT" in the subject line.

If you are a COVID-19 temporary permit holder and you want to continue to practice in Louisiana beyond June 14, 2022, then you need to apply for a Louisiana license to practice. (On our website, <a href="www.lsbme.la.gov">www.lsbme.la.gov</a>, click on the Apply for a NEW License/Permit button on the home page or click on LaMED DashBoard and register to get started). If not, then all current COVID-19 temporary permit holders whose permits are extended, should begin transitioning their patients to Louisiana licensed providers and conclude that process by June 14, 2022.

The Public Health Emergency Declaration and several provisions of the Governor's Proclamations suspended compliance with particular laws and rules. When the declaration of public health emergency ends, all applicable Louisiana practice act laws and rules will be in effect as to all LSBME licensees and permit holders. This includes but is not limited to laws and rules on, or applicable to: Acupuncture, Physicians who supervise Physician Assistants, Physician Assistants (including supervision), Clinical Lab Personnel, Respiratory Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physician Collaboration with APRNs, and Telemedicine.

Thus, all of Louisiana's Telemedicine rules applicable to physicians, will be in effect. To practice telemedicine as it is defined by La. R.S. 37:1262(4), you must be either a Louisiana licensed physician or have a telemedicine permit issued by the LSBME. See, La. R.S. 37:1271 and/or 1271.1 and LAC 46:XLV.7503 "Physician."

All of Louisiana's rules regarding Physicians' Collaborative Practice Agreements with APRNs, will be in effect. Only Louisiana licensed physicians may collaborate with an APRN. See, LAC 46:XLV.7903 "Physician."

For **Physician Assistants**, La. R.S. 37:1360.30 requires you to qualify and submit a "Notification of Intent to Practice/Supervising Physician Delegation of Prescriptive Authority" form. Here is the link: <u>PA Notice of Intent to Practice</u>. Likewise, for Supervising Physicians, La. R.S. 37:1360.29 requires the physician to qualify and submit a Registration to Supervise physician assistants. Here is the link: <u>SP Registration</u>. Under La. R.S. 37:1360.29, **ONLY Louisiana licensed physicians in good standing with the LSBME qualify to supervise physician assistants.**These laws will be in effect as of March 17, 2022.

Louisiana licensed **Physician Assistants** and/or Louisiana licensed **Supervising Physicians**, may submit all compliance documents via fax to: (504) 324-0902; email to: <u>licensing@lsbme.la.gov</u> **OR** mail to: 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 (only submit ONCE).

Physician Assistant COVID-19 temporary permit holders, whose permits are extended, may forward such compliance documents marked "**POST COVID-19**" via fax to: (504) 324-0902; email to: <u>licensing@lsbme.la.gov</u> **OR** mail to: 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 (only submit ONCE).

No Physician, whose COVID-19 temporary permit is extended, may supervise a physician assistant because Louisiana law requires the Supervising Physician to be <u>a Louisiana licensed</u> physician in good standing with the LSBME.

## **LSBME**